

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The language being added is underlined (“ ”) and the language being deleted contains either a strikethrough (“”) or is enclosed by double brackets (“[[]”).

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) An image projection apparatus, comprising:

a projector, a frame, a light source and an at least partially transparent screen;

the frame being arranged to retain the screen under tension, such that the tension of the screen can be varied at a plurality of positions along at least one edge of said screen such that the screen is substantially wrinkle free;

the light source arranged to illuminate at least part of the apparatus;

the screen inclined at an angle with respect to a plane of emission of light from the projector and the screen having a front surface arranged such that light emitted from the projector is reflected therefrom; and

the projector being arranged to project an image such that light forming the image impinges upon the screen such that a virtual image is created from light reflected from the screen, the virtual image appearing to be located behind the screen, wherein the screen is foil and the frame comprises first and second retention members each arranged to sandwich an edge region of the screen therebetween, the first and second retention members comprising respective openings therethrough arranged to collocate with respective openings in the screen, wherein the openings are arranged to receive a fixing means so as to clamp the screen between the first and second retention members, and wherein at least one of the first and second retention members is attached to tensioning straps.

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the screen is attached to the frame at the screen's upper edge, lower edge, or both.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the tensioning straps are attached to a truss arrangement or a fixed mounting point located in a permanent structure such as a wall, floor or ceiling and are adjustable such that the tension of the screen within the truss arrangement can be varied about the periphery of the screen.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the retention members are substantially parallel to truss members comprising the truss arrangements.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the screen is inclined at approximately 45° to the plane of emission of light from the projector.

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the light source is located to the rear of the screen, along a top edge of the frame, along either side of a stage, or some combination thereof.

19-50. (canceled)

51. (Previously presented) An image projection apparatus, comprising:

a projector, a frame or fixed mounting points, and an at least partially transparent screen;

the frame or fixed mounting points being arranged to retain the screen under tension, such that the screen is inclined at an angle with respect to a plane of emission of light from the projector;

the screen having a front surface arranged such that light emitted from the projector is reflected therefrom; and

the projector being arranged to project an image such that light forming the image impinges upon the screen such that a virtual image is created from light reflected from the screen, the virtual image appearing to be located behind the screen, and wherein the frame comprises first and second retention members arranged to sandwich an edge region of the screen therebetween, and wherein a plurality of fixing means pass through the first retention member and through the screen and clamp the screen between the first and second retention members, and optionally locking means is provided adapted to lock the fixing means;

wherein the screen is a polymeric transparent foil that is held taught and substantially wrinkle-free by the retention members, the retention members having generally parallel faces which clamp an edge region of the foil between them, and wherein individually variable foil tensioning mechanisms are provided at spaced apart locations around the periphery of the foil to enable the foil to have tensioning force independently varied at the said spaced apart locations around the periphery of the foil, and wherein the first and second retention members are connected to one or more flexible tensioning means, which extend from the frame or fixed mounting points to the foil-gripping members, the foil, flexible tensioning means and the frame

or fixed mounting points lying in a common inclined plane, with the tension on the foil being applied in the plane of the flexible tensioning means, and the foil, the tensioning mechanisms comprising straps and ratchet strap tensioners, or straps and a friction-locking buckle arrangement.

52. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein respective locking means are provided for the fixing means.

53. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 52, wherein the locking means is provided in the form of nuts, to lock the fixing means in position, the fixing means extending through the retention members and the screen.

54. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the first and second retention members comprise a plurality of respective openings, with the fixing means extending through the openings.

55. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein an abrasive surface is provided on at least one of the retention members to increase the grip between the retention member and the screen, thereby reducing the likelihood of the screen slipping when held by the retention member.

56. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 55, wherein the abrasive surface comprises sandpaper.

57. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the screen is a foil.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Canceled)

64 60. (Currently amended) An image projection apparatus, comprising:
a projector, a frame or fixed mounting points, and an at least partially transparent screen;
the frame or fixed mounting points being arranged to retain the screen under tension, such that the screen is inclined at an angle with respect to a plane of emission of light from the projector;

the screen having a front surface arranged such that light emitted from the projector is reflected therefrom; and

the projector being arranged to project an image such that light forming the image impinges upon the screen such that a virtual image is created from light reflected from the screen, the virtual image appearing to be located behind the screen, and wherein the frame comprises first and second retention members arranged to sandwich an edge region of the screen therebetween, the first and second retention members being connected to one or more flexible tensioning means, which extend from the frame or fixed mounting points, the foil, flexible tensioning means and the frame or fixed mounting points lying in a common inclined plane, with the tension on the foil being applied in the plane of the flexible tensioning means and the foil, and wherein a plurality of fixing means pass through the first retention member and through the screen and clamp the screen between the first and second retention members, ~~and~~ optionally locking means is provided adapted to lock the fixing means, and the first and second retention members comprise respective openings therethrough arranged to collocate with openings in respective jaws of clamping members attached to tensioning straps.

~~62~~ 61. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~64~~ 60, wherein the screen comprises a partially reflective layer upon the front surface and is inclined at approximately 45° to the plane of emission of light from the projector.

~~63~~ 62. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~64~~ 60, wherein the screen is attached to the frame at the screen's upper edge, lower edge, or both.

~~64~~ 63. (Canceled)

~~65~~ 64. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~64~~ 60, wherein the tensioning straps are attached to a truss arrangement or a fixed mounting point located in a permanent structure such as a wall, floor or ceiling and are adjustable such that the tension of the screen within the truss arrangement can be varied about the periphery of the screen.

~~66~~ 65. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~65~~ 64, wherein the retention members are substantially parallel to truss members comprising the truss arrangement.